

Calculating Animal Units
Work Sheet

1. How many counties were present in the New Mexico Territory in 1880?
2. What county was lost between 1852 and 1880, and what county increased in size?
3. What are the names of the four counties that occupied the southern one-half of the state in 1880?
4. In 1880, how many horses, cattle, sheep, goats and pigs were in the southern half of New Mexico?
5. If one cow is equal to one animal unit, one horse is equal to one and one-quarter animal units, and either five sheep, six goats or six pigs are equal to one animal unit, how many animal units were grazing the four counties in 1880?
6. By 1900, there were four additional counties created in the southern half of New Mexico, name the counties.
7. How many horses, cattle, sheep, goats and pigs were grazing the southern half of New Mexico in 1900?
8. Using the animal units in question 5, determine total animal units for the eight counties in 1900.

Calculating Animal Units

Work Sheet Key

1. How many counties were present in the New Mexico Territory in 1880? **Twelve**
2. What county was lost between 1852 and 1880, and what county increased in size? **Santa Ana County disappears, and Bernalillo County more than triples in size.**
3. What were the names of the four counties that occupied the southern one-half of the state in 1880? **Dona Ana, Grant, Lincoln and Socorro**
4. In 1880, how many horses, cattle, sheep, goats and pigs were in the southern half of New Mexico? **In the four counties there were 3,552 horses; 41,494 cattle; 201,558 sheep; no data for goats; and 2,169 pigs. Did you know that before 1930, pigs were herded along with horses, cattle and sheep and goats. In other words, pigs were not confined to pens, as they are today.**
5. If one cow is equal to one animal unit, one horse is equal to one and one-quarter animal units, and either five sheep, six goats or six pigs are equal to one animal unit, how many animal units were grazing the four counties in 1880? **3,552 times 1.25 equals 4,440 horse animal units; 41,494 times 1.00 equals 41,494 cattle animal units; and 201,558 plus 2,169 equals 203,727 divided by 6 animal units equals 33,954 sheep, goat and pig animal units. The total animal units in 1880, for the southern half of New Mexico, were 79,888.**
6. By 1900, there were four additional counties created in the southern half of New Mexico, name the counties. **Eddy, Chaves, Otero and Sierra**
7. How many horses, cattle, sheep, goats and pigs were grazing the southern half of New Mexico in 1900? **In the eight counties there were 69,210 horses; 688,571 cattle; 698,571 cattle units; then add 698,744 sheep plus 82,627 goats plus 6,642 pigs (a total of 788,013) and divide by 6, this equals 131,335 sheep, goat and pig units. The total animal units in 1900, for the southern half of New Mexico were 906,418 or there were more than 11 times more animal units in 1900 than in 1880.**
8. Using the animal units in question 5, determine total animal units for the eight counties in 1900. **69,210 times 1.25 equals 86,512 horse units; 688,571 times 1.00 equals 688,571 cattle units; then add 698,744 sheep plus 82,627 goats plus 6,642 pigs (a total of 788,013) and divide by 6, this equals 131,335 sheep, goat and pig units. The total animal units in 1900, for the southern half of New Mexico were 906,418 or there were more than 11 times more animal units in 1900 than in 1880.**